r/BORUpdates • 5mo ago
Schattenspringer

AITAH for allowing my husband's mistress to meal prep for him and the kids? [Ongoing]

This is a repost. The original was posted in r/AITAH and r/confessions by User Nyccheesecake. I'm not the original poster. This BORU was suggested by u/tiffanyisarobot.

Status: Ongoing but somewhat concluded

Mood:

Trigger Warning:

Editor's note: I added paragraph breaks for readability.

Original

October 19, 2024

My husband has been cheating on me for years with different women due to this I've completely shut off from him. We don't have a sexual relationship but we do an amazing job at being parents. Our kids love us and that's all that matter in the grand scheme of things. I am not dating anyone,this isn't an open relationship. Every time he cheats he acts more remorseful but Ive come to terms that I can't save him.

He's seeing this woman Cherry and she's a cook and baker. We were in a little tussle once but that's is in the past. I've moved on. I don't like her but I don't hate her. Few weeks back I caught him eating in his car and realized it was from her, the packaging gave him away. She has been sending him goodie bags and now full meals. I told him going forward I'm no longer cooking for him and he needs to let her do everything including meals for the kids. I really put my foot down and did some petty things that I'm not proud of but it worked.

I told him if she loves him she will do it but I'm done. Well I don't know what he did to convince her but at least 3 times a week they get meals from Cherry. He brings the container and plates the food, the kids are happy because they think they are getting take out. I don't partake. On the other days I cook for just the kids and myself.

My husband on the other hand got mad and said I manipulated him into taking advantage of Cherry and kept asking me what do I get out of these mind games. I told my bestfriend about the whole ordeal and she's upset with me saying that what if Cherry spikes the kids meal. I don't think she would do it.

AITAH for letting this happen?

Consensus:

YTA for staying with the children in this toxic marriage.

Some of the comments by OOP:

- *[Why not getting a divorce already]* I'm not giving up my house and leaving with half. I hope I get under his skin and he gives up everything.

- *[If a throuple would be a possibility]* We live in a small town she tries to get with everybody... no thanks.

- She's a professional mistress. She'll move on from him soon.

- *[Somebody says to take the money she saves on groceries for a divorce]* Groceries higher than a mfer I have 0 issues. Until she jumps on her next target I'm good.

- *[Somebody comments to get a job so she isn't reliant on her husband] [heavily downvoted]* I PROVIDE read that again! A cheater doesn't provide for me. I'm there for my kids and my assets. The internet makes everything look so easy. It's not! You think someone that gets repeatedly cheated on never thought about divorce? It's not in the cards now.

- *[example of OOP fighting in the comments with people pointing out that this whole thing is toxic for their children] [heavily downvoted]* Girl they are young, do you think this will be happening forever? You keep harping on this one point. I'm blocking you.

- *[heavily downvoted]* These comments are boosting me to leave but it's not black and white. We have built a good amount together. Financially it's a stupid idea.

Update

August 21, 2025, 10 months later

I cheated on my husband and he caught us I was sick and tired of feeling unloved and unwanted. I was sick of being a doormat and taking him back every single fucking time. I don't know how I feel right now but I know it's not regret or shame, it's something else.

I invited a guy I've been talking to over at the house, I knew my husband was coming home at 5 and I still went through with it. Keeping personal things personal he saw everything and I mean EVERYTHING and heard as well.

I have to face the reality of my situation. I'm not shocked he's hurt, that was my intention but the hypocrisy is astonishing. He's been crying the entire night, I've cried for YEARS. Somehow I am the scum, not him.

After he's been playing house with this woman and having dinner by her house. It's 12 am right now and all I can say is that I'm lucky my husband and the guy didn't thrash it out. It was incredibly awkward.....My mind is racing I feel a bit scared, empowered and uncertain. I haven't been steady in ages.

Comments by OOP:

- I don't feel icky, he's trying to guilt trip me.

- Guilty of what. He's been doing this for years. It's not the same

Update 2

August 21, 2025, 10 months later

It's been 10 months or so since I've last posted and a lot has changed. I'm here to tell you that I am getting a divorce and starting the moving on process. After posting on Reddit I received a lot of backlash and dm's that were a bit overboard.

However, there were some that made me see life in a different perspective and I realized being petty doesn't serve me nor my kids. A month after my OG post I stopped the kids from eating cherry's meals, it was childish to drag my kids into that mess, I'm just grateful they are small enough and don't understand what's happening with their parents.

I let her cook for him and take care of his laundry. There is no way I'm slaving over a man who hates me. My job is to take care of my kids not a grown adult who cannot respect his wife. I'm no longer cook, therapist, financial planner, assistant and maid. Just mother of his children and soon to be ex wife.

Well to rip the bandaid off I cheated back and it didn't go as planned. The petty spirit in me did it in the worst way possible. I invited a gentleman over when I knew my husband would be coming in and he saw and heard everything. He caught me in the act to keep it real with you all. I'm lucky to say that it could've went way worse than it did but I don't feel guilty just indifferent. I can say he isn't taking it well and before bed he bawled his eyes out and vented for what felt like a millennium.

I am the scum, I am the traitor. It's funny not in a hysterical way but I've been crying for YEARS and he's only cried once. It's almost as if he forgot he was the cheater who caused all of this. I'm don't know how to explain but I don't regret cheating back. It made me feel empowered, I felt satisfaction watching him breakdown because that used to be me.

The morning afterwards he woke up begging to reconcile but this taught me I NEEDED to divorce. He's being extra nice but nice isn't good enough, it's the bare minimum. I had to pause when writing because he called to check up on me at work. He never does this. Not to mention lunch drop offs and little gifts. I'm not buying it.

I know this isn't the update some would want but the bright side is I'm holding myself accountable and getting that divorce.

Comments by OOP:

- *[about the cheating]* Well, let me be frank I can't take back f*c king another man in my marital home, I can't take back being "spineless" but I can take back MY LIFE, MY FREEDOM AND DIGNITY.

- I am not as bad as a serial cheater, I will never believe that. That's comparing a thief to a murderer. This is the first time I've done this. Betrayal changes you.

- I won't lie it felt good. The weirdest thing was him trying to initiate intimacy in the morning. He seemed triggered when I declined.

- I never knew cheating back would clear my mind. It's not the best way to handle things. He woke up in the morning trying to initiate intimacy I was disgusted. Then he had the nerve to look hurt.

- Years of feeling worthless and undesirable. I have no regrets, I won't be forced to feel like a villain and I don't consider myself a cheater. He was not a faithful and loyal partner.

- How is it worse when he's a serial cheater, I cheated one time. He's been doing this for ages. I am not worse than him, the things he has done I can't share because I have some shame. Hiding cheating doesn't mean you have more morals.

- A win is what I say it is. I feel better, it's been years being humiliated and promised that change will come. I am the change.

- No I cannot be as bad as someone who has cheated multiple times. What makes me disgusting? Is it because I'm a woman who cheated back in my marital home? I can never take back the fcking. Yes it is justifiable he gets to hurt me to my core and I just take it over and over and over again. NO. You are entitled to your opinion but no one will convince me this is the same thing.

- It was worth it. Thanks.

- one decision doesn't define me. All this heat for me and not the serial cheater. Call it whatever you want if it makes you feel better but being betrayed makes you do things you wouldn't think of. I hope you never get cheated on.

- *[about Cherry]* When we had a little tussle she mentioned that he paid her rent. I called her a professional mistress because this isn't the first taken man she's messed with. She's known for doing that.

- He paid it only once to my knowledge. I stopped the joint account once I found out about other women.

- *[what about the children]* I always try my best to be happy around them. They never suspect anything is wrong.

- My kids are very young and in their own little bubble. They are vibrant and happy kids. This would never affect them.

- My kids are LOVED. The happiest kiddos you'll ever meet. They are so kind and sweet. They are very young and do not know what's going on.

- My children won't *[cheat in the future]* because I'm getting a divorce. Stop bringing up my kids into this. They are happy and have an amazing life.

-

My kids are extremely young and we will be getting divorced . Stop projecting your broken home mommy and daddy issues onto me and my children. We won't be like you.

I'm not the original poster.

941 · 183

AutoModerator MOD • 5mo ago

Moderator Announcement Read More »

1

Alternative_Year_340 • 5mo ago

I suppose the good news is that they're getting divorced

571

Cultural_Shape3518 • 5mo ago

I have trouble believing they can handle that without some new drama.

174

GnomesinBlankets • 5mo ago

Especially since dude doesn't seem to actually want his wife to leave him

92

4 more replies

Alternative_Year_340 • 5mo ago

Once they sign the papers, he'll probably never speak to his kids again, outside of complaining about child support.

65

[deleted] • 5mo ago

What a dysfunctional family. If this is truly real I hope those kids get the therapy they will need in years to come.

1K

41flavorsandthensome • 5mo ago

> If this is truly real

The entire time I read this, I thought of my sister saying she wasn't going to divorce her husband and "let him win."

Some people are just stupid and stubborn.

567

Automatic_Use5338 • 5mo ago

I have a family member that had that same mindset. When she decided to divorce him, their elementary school child told them "finally". I hate when people go on here and act like kids don't notice things.

173

1 more reply

6 more replies

Crafterlaughter • 5mo ago

"They are very young and do not know what's going on." The kids definitely know something is going on even if they don't realize the depth of their parents' dysfunction.

248

polkadotpygmypuff • 5mo ago

I worked with kids for 10 years. I once had a 7 year old tell me his parents were splitting up. We talked about it and gave him the opportunity to express his feelings, etc. 2 weeks later his mum comes in to tell us that Kid doesn't know but she and husband are splitting up.

Kids always know.

249

20 more replies

Dr_Spiders • 5mo ago

I remember my brother and I praying for my parents to divorce. I was 5 or 6, and had known for years that something was wrong with them.

I didn't find out about my father's cheating until I was in college, but it didn't surprise me. They're still together, of course.

Kids can tell when their parents resent each other.

88

2 more replies

Simple_Union_577 • 5mo ago

I will never understand how some people are stupid enough to convince themselves that kids don't know what's going on. They take in EVERYTHING. Their little brains are taking in so much information. They notice things fully grown adults don't. And they absolutely are listening to Every. Single. Fight. And wondering if this is the one where mom and dad get divorced.

I always knew the big things before my parents would tell me.

32

3 more replies

3 more replies

.

Reasonable-Budget210 • 5mo ago

All gas, no breaks.

212

fionsichord • 5mo ago

*brakes.

85

Schattenspringer OP • 5mo ago

Both are fitting, really.

116

1 more reply

3 more replies

Schattenspringer OP • 5mo ago

These children don't even get a fighting chance, huh?

292

No-Storage1947 • 5mo ago

I wouldn't have a problem with any of this if it wasn't for the children. Two grown adults being idiots? Good for them, go be fools. But it isn't fair to hurt two small children out of pettiness.

146

8 more replies

3 more replies

Whereswolf • 5mo ago

I know it's bad, but her cheating once was what finally got her to grow a spine and get out.

I'm not saying she did good but her pettiness and revenge act was the start of her finally getting enough. And it also taught the husband a lesson in consequences. Not only is he now getting divorced but he has also tried how it feels to be betrayed. It was just once but it would forever leave a mark. He will never forget how it feels when someone you love fucks someone else. And maybe that will make him stop using his dick everywhere...

Regarding the kids... Those poor little souls. A mommy that petty and a daddy this selfish.... Wow... They're going to have so much fun growing up in that kind of co-parenting setting.

241

desolate_cat • 5mo ago

Does he even love her? I doubt it. Its more of him losing control over her.

102

Good_Focus2665 • 5mo ago

Sounds like she provides everything so he's losing the financial comfort more than anything else.

58

Whereswolf • 5mo ago

She did say that she cut the joint account.
But it doesn't really matter if it's love for her or love for her money. He still got a lesson.

30

15 more replies

Crappler319 • 5mo ago

This woman has the introspective capacity of a crouton, and she appears to be the SANE adult in this situation.

Some kids get college funds, these poor kids should have therapy funds.

247

prj126 • 5mo ago

> introspective capacity of a crouton

Thank you for my new favourite insult

66

1 more reply

1 more reply

DeltaNovemberCharlie • 5mo ago

I'm probably about to get downvoted to hell for this, and I don't condone it usually, but I'm happy she made him feel that hurt.

233

HereForTheBoos1013 • 5mo ago

Likewise. My main issue in this is the children being yanked around this toxic dynamic. My parents' and aunt and uncle's relationship (very different issues than these) pretty much torched any idea of a normal relationship dynamic for me, and I'm independent to a *fault* and view marriage as a trap. Guessing these kids will have similar opinions of what the dynamics of a marriage look like.

But am I happy he caught her cheating and then broke down and sobbed about it despite everything he put her through? Hell yes.

34

12 more replies